

Vietnam Veterans of America



VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL, LASDON PARK, SOMERS, NEW YORK



*Westchester
County
Chapter #49*

If box is checked
your dues are due now.

☐

All the POW's are not home yet!
Do you know?
Do you care?



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Westchester County Chapter 49
Vietnam Veterans of America
P.O. Box 224
Pleasantville, New York 10570
Notice: Address Service Requested

VVA CHAPTER 49 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Chapter Officers:

President: Barney Puleo 682-4949
Vice President: Al Zawiski 428-9352
Secretary: Jim LaManna 793-6077
Treasurer: Al Singerman 930-7433

Board of Directors: (5)

Bob Kennedy 669-5411
Terry Keogh 428-9845
Bob Miller 391-8723
Carl DiLiberto 462-0782
Matt Coffey 682-4949

State Council Delegates: (6)

Dan Griffin	Al Singerman
Jim LaManna	Al Zawiski
Barney Puleo	Terry Keogh

Nominating Chairman:

Dan Griffin

Veterans Offices:

Yonkers: Dan Morea 377-6700
Carmel: Brennen Mahoney 845-808-1620

Vet Center: 300 Hamilton Ave, White Plains, NY 10601

Roger Paulmeno 682-6250

White Plains Clinic 421-1951
23 S. Broadway, White Plains, NY 10601

FDR Montrose Hospital 737-4400

Westchester County Veterans Service Agency:

Dan Griffin 995-2146 / 2145

Committees:

Membership	Phil Wanderman 963-3034
Chaplain	Al Zawiski 428-9352
Comm. Affairs	Dan Griffin 682-4949
POW / MIA	Dan Griffin 682-4949
Member Products	Jim LaManna 793-6077
Color Guard	Rich Palazzo 845-297-1513
Scholarship	Bob Miller 391-8723

WESTCHESTER COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

HOURS:

11:00 - 3:30
914-864-7068
WEDNESDAY - SUNDAY
AND HOLIDAYS

Chapter 49
Telephone / Fax Number
(914) 682-4949

Website:

www.vietnamvets49.org

E-Mail:

mailto: Chapter49@aol.com

Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month
at
Armonk Post 1097
35 Bedford Rd.
Armonk, NY 10504

This newsletter is a publication of Chapter 49, however the opinions expressed herein are those of the contributors, and as such, they do not necessarily represent those of Chapter 49. All views are welcome for publication. Submit items of interest, including poems, short stories, photographs, etc., to the Editors at the Chapter address or call for other arrangements. Materials submitted will not be returned unless otherwise requested.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Some of you may not know that I am a Service Officer; I submit claims for disabilities that were caused by your service. The VA has added more diseases that were caused by exposure to Agent Orange. Also if you served in Camp Lejeune, NC you were exposed to the tainted water and therefore may have one of the eight diseases that The VA is now paying compensation. If you believe that any of your medical problems were caused by your service, call me at the Westchester County Veterans Service Agency: 914-995-2145.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is the information about our Scholarship, this is for our Chapter member's children and grandchildren that live outside of Westchester County

Take care of yourself and each other

Dan Griffin

Welcome to our newest members

Jeffrey Carr from Somers

James Grote life member from Minot, ND

Carmine Drogo from White Plains

Paul Wing life member from White Plains

Stephen Buhs life member from Peekskill



VA Hudson Valley Healthcare System

Web: <http://www.hudsonvalley.va.gov> | Twitter: @vahudsonvalley

Montrose Campus: 2094 Albany Post Road, Montrose, NY 10548 | (914) 737-4400

Castle Point Campus: 41 Castle Point Rd, Wappingers Falls, NY 12590 | (845) 831-2000

VA Hudson Valley Health Care System Optometry and Audiology Direct Scheduling Factsheet

Optometry and Audiology and Direct Scheduling Roll-Out

Background

The MyVA Performance Improvement Team has been working with VA medical centers across the country to identify performance improvement opportunities and pilot programs that can positively impact the Veteran and employee experience. One opportunity, identified during sites visits, is the direct scheduling of patients in need of Optometry (eye) and Audiology (hearing) services without referrals through their respective Primary Care providers.

In 2015, VA launched pilots in three locations: Bay Pines VA Healthcare System (VAHCS), White River Junction, VT and Mountain Home, TN. The pilots gave Veterans (including traveling Veterans and those unassigned to a Primary Care provider) the option to directly schedule routine Optometry and Audiology appointments without the need for a Primary Care consult. Because of the success of the pilots, we are now making this program available to Veterans at our facility.

As part of a national VA roll-out, Direct Scheduling available across VA Hudson Valley Health Care System will be starting for **Optometry on August 22** and **Audiology on September 12**.

How Can Veterans Directly Schedule An Appointment for Optometry or Audiology?

Veterans can schedule an appointment for Optometry or Audiology directly by contacting the preferred location below

<p><u>Optometry</u> (Begins August 22)</p> <p><u>Main campuses</u> (Monday-Friday / 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ FDR Montrose: 914-737-4400, ext. 3144/2194 ▪ Castle Point: 845-831-2000, ext. 5663 <p><u>CBOCs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carmel CBOC: 845-228-5291, ext. 7304/7303 (Monday, Thursday, Friday) 	<p><u>Audiology</u> (Begins September 12)</p> <p>Castle Point only: 845-838-5226 (Monday-Friday / 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.)</p>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Goshen CBOC: 845-294-6927, ext. 7851/7852/7853 (Monday, Wednesday, 1st & 2nd Friday of month) ▪ Monticello: 845-791-4936, ext. 7800/7801 (Monday, Tuesday, every other Wednesday) ▪ New City: 845-634-8942, ext. 7400 (Monday – Friday) ▪ Pine Plains: 518-398-9240, ext. 8700 (2nd Tuesday of month) ▪ Port Jervis: 845-856-5396, ext. 8521/8522 (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday) ▪ Poughkeepsie: 845-452-5151, ext. 7501/7502 (Tuesday and Thursday) 	
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What Did Veterans and Staff Gain from the Pilot?

Veterans involved in the pilot indicated that they like the new process. Those not needing a Primary Care visit saved a trip to the facility. When taking into account the elimination of the Primary Care appointment, Veterans total wait times were reduced appreciably. Employees scheduling appointments saved on average an hour a day reviewing consults and setting up appointments. Primary Care Physicians had clinical time freed up.

For questions about the new Optometry process, please contact the optometry clinic by dialing:

- FDR Montrose: 914-737-4400, ext. 3144/2194
- Castle Point: 845-831-2000, ext. 5663

For questions about the new Audiology process, please contact the Audiology clinic by dialing:

- 845-838-5226

VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA WESTCHESTER COUNTY CHAPTER #49 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

Vietnam Veterans of America - Chapter #49, awards six scholarships of \$700 each year to high school graduates in Westchester County. The awards are granted to assist with a college or vocational school education. These scholarships honor six outstanding individuals from our area and are named the Pete Lambert Memorial Scholarship, the Congressman Hamilton Fish Jr. Memorial Scholarship, the Peter T. McCauley Memorial Scholarship, the Anthony Shine Memorial Scholarship, the Jonathan Shine Memorial Scholarship, and the William Suddereth Memorial Scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY: Students who will complete high school in Westchester County this year, are the child or a grandchild of an active duty service veteran, and plan to attend an accredited U.S. college/university or vocational/technical school are eligible to compete for the scholarships. **Please note** that service in the Reserves or National Guard does not constitute veteran status, unless you were activated for more than 90 days for purposes other than training. **Also note** that the child or grandchild of any veteran is eligible; service does not have to be during the Vietnam era.

HOW TO APPLY: There are three selection criteria that the student must submit in order to be considered for a scholarship:

1. You're SAT or ACT scores; no other test score will be accepted. **Note;** for those who will be attending a vocational/technical school this requirement will be waived.
2. A resume of extracurricular activities to include school clubs, sports and student government, work experience, volunteer experience and other interests. Relevant references, with addresses and phone numbers, should be provided.
3. A written statement, not to exceed two typed pages, on the topic "The affect (if any) of my mother's/father's or grandfather's/grandmother's military service on my attitudes toward life and country."

Students should complete the attached application and return it, along with the other requested items, by **April 1, 2017** to: Vietnam Veterans of America #49
Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 224
Pleasantville, NY 10570

SELECTION OF AWARDEES AND PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS: VVA #49 Scholarship Committee is solely responsible for the selection process. In late May the Committee will notify those selected for scholarships and their high schools and the acceptance and enrollment of those selected in an accredited college or technical school will be verified. Scholarship awards will be presented at our May meeting.

IMPORTANT ITEMS: Application **must be submitted by April 1, 2017** and must include a copy of parent's or grandparent's DD-214 (military discharge). Principal or guidance counselor must certify your rank in class and SAT score; a copy of your SAT or ACT score must be included. Include the phone number of your high School and make sure the application is complete. **THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE WILL NOT CONSIDER APPLICATIONS THAT DO NOT CONTAIN ALL OF THE REQUESTED INFORMATION IN ITS REQUIRED FORM OR ARE RECEIVED AFTER THE SUBMITTAL DATE.**

NOTE TO CHAPTER MEMBERS OUTSIDE OF WESTCHESTER COUNTY: YOU DO NOT HAVE TO RESIDE IN WESTCHESTER COUNTY TO APPLY FOR OUR SCHOLARSHIP. PLEASE CALL US AND WE WILL SEND YOU AN APPLICATION PACKAGE.

Veterans' Diseases Associated with Agent Orange



VA assumes that certain diseases can be related to a Veteran's qualifying military service. We call these "presumptive diseases."

VA has recognized certain cancers and other health problems as presumptive diseases associated with [exposure to Agent Orange or other herbicides](#) during military service. Veterans and their survivors may be eligible for benefits for these diseases.

- **AL Amyloidosis**

A rare disease caused when an abnormal protein, amyloid, enters tissues or organs

- **Chronic B-cell Leukemias**

A type of cancer which affects white blood cells

- **Chloracne (or similar acneform disease)**

A skin condition that occurs soon after exposure to chemicals and looks like common forms of acne seen in teenagers. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.

- **Diabetes Mellitus Type 2**

A disease characterized by high blood sugar levels resulting from the body's inability to respond properly to the hormone insulin

- **Hodgkin's Disease**

A malignant lymphoma (cancer) characterized by progressive enlargement of the lymph nodes, liver, and spleen, and by progressive anemia

- **Ischemic Heart Disease**

A disease characterized by a reduced supply of blood to the heart, that leads to chest pain

- **Multiple Myeloma**

A cancer of plasma cells, a type of white blood cell in bone marrow

- **Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma**

A group of cancers that affect the lymph glands and other lymphatic tissue

- **Parkinson's Disease**

A progressive disorder of the nervous system that affects muscle movement

- **Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset**

A nervous system condition that causes numbness, tingling, and motor weakness. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of herbicide exposure.

- **Porphyrria Cutanea Tarda**

A disorder characterized by liver dysfunction and by thinning and blistering of the skin in sun-exposed areas. Under VA's rating regulations, it must be at least 10 percent disabling within one year of exposure to herbicides.

- **Prostate Cancer**

Cancer of the prostate; one of the most common cancers among men

- **Respiratory Cancers (includes lung cancer)**

Cancers of the lung, larynx, trachea, and bronchus

- **Soft Tissue Sarcomas (other than osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi's sarcoma, or mesothelioma)**

A group of different types of cancers in body tissues such as muscle, fat, blood and lymph vessels, and connective tissues.

COINS ON A HEADSTONE

A coin left on a headstone lets the deceased soldier's family know that somebody stopped by to pay their respect. Leaving a penny means you visited. A nickel means that you and the deceased soldier trained at boot camp together. If you served with the soldier, you leave a dime. A quarter is very significant because it means that you were there when that soldier died. I AM VERY PROUD TO SHARE THIS.

JANUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24 Pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30 PM	25	26	27	28
29 <hr/>	30	31				

February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26 <hr/>	27	28 Pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30 PM				

MARCH 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 meeting Board 6:00 Dinner 6:30 meeting	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Day Light Savings	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:30 PM	29	30	31	

APRIL 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 meeting 6:00 Board 6:30 dinner 7:30 meeting	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 Easter	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <u>30</u>	24	25 pizza Party FDR Stress Unit 5:0 PM	26	27	28	29



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

WE NEED YOU IN THE VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA



MEMBERSHIP TYPES and ELIGIBILITY

Individual Membership is open to any Vietnam-era Veteran who served on active duty in the U.S. armed forces between January 1, 1959 and May 7, 1975.

Associate Membership in the VVA is open to all who share our concerns – both men and women, friends, supporters, and families – Veteran or not.

Life Membership / Associate Life Membership is available to all who wish to demonstrate a greater commitment to the ideals and work of the V.V.A. (Economically a great deal!)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

check one

circle dues amount if applicable

_____ Vietnam-era Veteran Application: 1 year - \$20 3 years - \$50 Life Membership - \$100
Individual Membership
(must provide a copy of applicant's DD-214)

_____ Non-Vietnam-era Veteran Application: 1 year - \$20 3 years - \$50 Life Membership - \$100
Associate Membership

_____ Non-Member Financial Contribution: \$ _____

_____ Report of Address Change:

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Date of Birth: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Please make checks payable to: V.V.A. Chapter #49



Send application and check to:

Membership Chair, V.V.A. Chapter #49 PO Box 224, Pleasantville, NY 10570

Questions? Call the Chapter: Phone/Fax (914) 682-4949

or e-mail: Chapter49@aol.com

www.VietnamVets49.org



**Chapter #49 meetings are held the 1st Thursday of each month at:
The Armonk American Legion Hall • 35 Bedford Rd. Armonk, NY 10504
Dinner at 6:30 pm / Meeting at 7:30 pm**

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PETE VALANE

Bagpiper
For All Occasions

914-632-2952

Cell 347-596-8042



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Associate Broker

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**SAILORS - JOIN NOW
CONTACT**

MATTHEW J. COFFEY
Capt. USNR- Ret.

AUSN Regional President - Mid-Atlantic Region

16 N. Broadway White Plains, NY 10601
(914) 997-7663 ★ (914) 584-5741 Mobile
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